

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS AND
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH**

SEPTEMBER 15, 2015

Adopting Resolution for Local Leadership at the Los Angeles Times

Earlier this week, Tribune Publishing Co. (Tribune) abruptly announced that it was replacing its locally-based publisher at the *Los Angeles Times* (LAT), and that it had assigned the publisher of its Baltimore-based publications as his replacement.

While no particular justification was provided by Tribune for this drastic change, it was reported that it stemmed from a fundamental disagreement in priorities and methods.

The appointment of a publisher transferred from outside of the Los Angeles area, and the continued practice of having key decisions made by a body located approximately 1,750 miles and two time zones away, is clearly not in the best interest of operating, growing and nurturing a local newspaper. Undoubtedly, these are business decisions based upon what is best for Tribune, and may not take fully into consideration the factors and nuances associated with a publication such as the LAT. Moreover, such a newspaper cannot achieve financial success without being ideally grounded in and committed to the communities it serves.

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Adopt the attached resolution which urges Tribune Publishing Co. to restore local, established and invested leadership at the Los Angeles Times, and/or consider the sale of the LAT to local, established, and invested leaders.

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(RT)

MOTION

SOLIS	_____
RIDLEY-THOMAS	_____
KUEHL	_____
KNABE	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the *Los Angeles Times* has been the newspaper of record for millions of residents across Los Angeles County since its first publication in 1881; and

WHEREAS, the *Los Angeles Times* serves as a critical, local journalistic entity within a major national publishing business that reflects, through its news and feature stories, the diversity of the people of Los Angeles County and their contributions; and

WHEREAS, the *Los Angeles Times* chronicles the cultural life of the distinct yet connected communities within Los Angeles County, and analyzes the social significance of civic, business and ecumenical developments that shape and guide daily lives; and

WHEREAS, the readership of the *Los Angeles Times* is best served when its leaders, decision makers and journalists are established and invested members of the Los Angeles County community and reflect the commitment to this community that is reminiscent of its storied tradition; and

WHEREAS, the *Los Angeles Times*, though recently challenged, as are most print publications, by the rapid pace of technological change, remains the print and digital news and information resource of record for millions in Los Angeles County and beyond; and

WHEREAS, recent decisions and developments within the publicly-traded parent company of the *Los Angeles Times*, Tribune Publishing Co., has removed local leadership and journalists from the publication who were firmly established in Los Angeles County, and who were present and fully invested in the future of Los Angeles County.

THEREFORE, be it resolved, that the Board of Supervisors of Los Angeles County, strongly urge Tribune Publishing Co., the parent company of the *Los Angeles Times*, to restore local, established and invested leadership at the *Los Angeles Times*, and/or in the alternative, consider the sale of the *Los Angeles Times* to local, established and invested Los Angeles business leaders.

The foregoing resolution was adopted on the 15th day of September 2015, adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles.



PATRICK OGAWA
Acting Executive Officer of the
Board of Supervisors of the
County of Los Angeles

By

Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM

MARY WICKHAM
Interim County Counsel

By

Deputy